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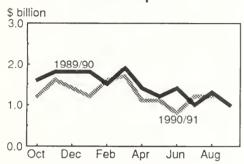
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U.S. Agricultural Trade Update

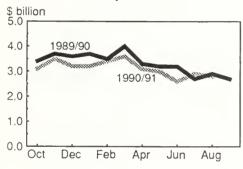
Economic Research Service U.S. Department of Agriculture

October 21, 1991

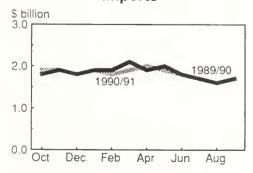




Exports



Imports



August Trade Surplus Down -- The agricultural trade surplus fell slightly to \$1.1 billion, a \$32 million decline from July. Exports showed a modest drop and imports stayed level. The cumulative October through August trade surplus totaled \$14 billion, 16 percent below last year (table 3).

Exports Decline Slightly -- Agricultural exports fell 3 percent (\$85 million) in August to \$2.8 billion. Exports rose for wheat, animal feed, and live animals but declined for corn, fruits, vegetables, cotton, tobacco, meat products, and soybeans. Cumulative October-August exports equaled \$34.7 billion, a 7 percent fall from last year.

Total grain and feed exports continued to increase in August after dropping considerably in April and May. However, they were still 11 percent short of last year's level. Wheat exports showed the largest gains in August. Value rose 18 percent to \$287 million from July, and its highest level since March. Volume jumped to 2.6 million tons, 484,000 tons higher than July. Shipments to China and Japan together accounted for 29 percent of August's exports. Brazil was also a large recipient. Lesser markets, which still received over 100,000 tons for the month, included Egypt, Pakistan, Korea, the Soviet Union, and the Philippines.

While still the largest exported agricultural commodity, corn shipments in August did not fare as well as wheat. Value fell \$24 million to \$424 million and volume dropped 337,000 tons to 3.8 million tons. August's shipments were still higher than April, May, or June's, and about equaled last August. Over 1.2 million tons were shipped to Japan, accounting for about 33 percent of the month's exports. The Soviets received about 770,000 tons, and Taiwan over 460,000 tons. Large deliveries also went to Egypt, Belgium, and Korea.

Soybean export value dropped 18 percent to \$202 million and volume dropped 19 percent to 899,000 tons. These levels were the lowest since October, but they were still higher than last August. Japan and Taiwan accounted for the bulk of the shipments, with Japan receiving about 345,000 tons and Taiwan about 190,000 tons. Korea and the USSR received over 100,000 tons each.

Cotton exports continued to slip, as they have since March. This drop reflects a smaller U.S. share of the cotton export market due to increased foreign production. Value fell 14 percent to \$69 million and volume fell 13 percent to 40,000 tons. The majority of shipments went to Japan and Korea.

Imports Remain Level -- Agricultural imports for August totaled \$1.7 billion, about the same as July. They increased for coffee, tobacco, and cocoa, but were offset by drops in sugar, dairy products, and live animals. The cumulative import total for October-August reached \$20.8 billion, remaining level with last year. (Susan Pollack, 2025219-0822)

High-Value Exports Surpass Traditional Products -- In fiscal 1991, high-value product (HVP) exports will have exceeded bulk exports for virtually the first time (table 4). Except during the two world wars, bulk exports have almost never accounted for less than half the value of U.S. farm product exports since at least the middle of the 19th century. Long-term changes in relative prices and recent government subsidies in world markets account for much of this shift in favor of HVP. (Stephen MacDonald, 202-219-0822)

		-August		August				
Commodity group and unit	Thousand Units		\$ Thou	sands	Thousand	units	\$ Thousands	
	1989/90	1990/91	1989/90	1990/91	1990	1991	1990	1991
Total agricultural exports (NA) Animals & animal prods (NA) Animals live - ex poultry (NA) Cattle & calves - live (NO) Swine - live (NO) Sheep, live (NO) Other live animals (NA) Meats & meat prods (MT) Beef & veal (MT) Beef & veal (MT) Beef & veal (MT) Beef - prep or pres (MT) Horsemeat-fr, chill, froz (MT) Pork - fr or froz (MT) Pork - fr or froz (MT) Pork - prep or pres (MT) Variety meats, edible offals (MT) Other meats - fr or prep (MT) Poultry & poultry prods (NA) Baby chicks (NO) Other live poultry (NA) Boultry - live (NA) Baby chicks (NO) Other live poultry (NA) Poultry meats (MT) Chickens - fr or froz (MT) Turkeys - fr or froz (MT) Poultry meats - prep or pres (MT) Feathers & downs, crude (MT) Eggs (NA) Dairy prods (NA) Evap & condensed milk (MT) Nonfat dry milk (MT) Sutter & anhyd milkfat (MT) Cheese (MT) Whey, fluid or dried (NA) Fats, oils, & greases (MT) Lard (MT) Tallow - inedible (MT) Other animal fats & oils (MT) Hides & skins, incl furs (NA) Cattle hides - whole (NO) Other fattle hides - pieces (NA) Mink pelts (NO) Other furskins (NA) Misc animal prods - other (NA) Grains & feeds (MT) Wheat, unmilled (MT) Wheat, unmilled (MT) Wheat flour (MT) Bullu semen (NA) Misc animal prods - other (NA) Grains & feeds (MT) Feed grains & prods (MT) Feed grains (MT) Barley (MT) Corn (MT) Grain sorghums (MT) Other grain prods (MT) Feed grains & frods (MT) Feed grains (MT) Barley (MT) Corn (MT) Grain sorghums (MT) Other feeds & fodders (MT) Fruits & prep, ex Juice (MT) Fruits & prep, ex Juice (MT) Fruits - fr (Tru) Corn (MT) Grapes - fresh (MT) Corness & Limes - fresh (MT) Corness & Limes - fresh (MT) Fruits - fr - cirrsh (MT) Corness & Limes - fresh (MT) Corness & Limes - fresh (MT) Corness - fresh (MT)	1989/90	1990/91	37,505,570 6,073,673 319,339 82,487 185,745 9,093 12,903 2,243,395 1,362,484 1,330,635 133,782 316,316 282,152 34,164 34,895 88,248 14,792 581,680 476,499 24,275 133,008 84,872 1,712,788 1,727 133,008 107,999 32,095 32,097 32,095 32,	34,758,352 6,216,964 488,716 141,363 281,365 18,213 26,856 2,547,982 1,587,801 32,003 134,509 300,837 261,904 38,933 411,359 111,472 918,508 85,229 13,229 673,753 532,575 49,408 14,482 76,908 14,482 76,908 14,482 76,908 14,482 76,908 14,482 76,908 15,275 15,870 32,304 61,705 15,870 32,304 61,705 15,870 32,304 61,705 15,870 32,304 61,705 15,870 32,304 61,705 15,870 32,304 61,705 15,870 32,304 61,705 15,870 32,304 61,705 15,870 32,304 61,705 17,705 1863 29,565	1990	1991	2,943,809 541,248 6,587 19,713 223,980 14,753 14,713 223,980 14,4394 22,7759 22,3461 77,3008 9,3169 57,1341 77,621 18,457 19,2987 32,341 31,432 77,761 18,457 19,298 4137 31,438 31,478 20,124 21,775 22,375 24,888 34,776 24,117 45,272 11,428 20,1240 21,5688	2,840,983 561,244 62,886 222,130 31,667 2,214 221,284 137,571 133,667 10,901 23,451 20,452 20,452 10,452 10,452 10,452 10,452 10,452 10,452 10,452 10,452 10,452 10,452 10,452 10,452 10,452 11,186 46,058 1,913 61,186 46,058 1,213 61,186 1,213 1,21
Other grain prods (MT) Feeds & fodders, ex oilcake (MT) Corn by-products (MT) Alfalfa meal & cubes (MT) Beet pulp (MT) Citrus pulp pellets (MT) Other feeds & fodders (MT) Fruits & prep, ex juice (MT)	557 10,453 5,311 505 507 457 3,673 2,068	630 10,311 5,627 505 536 566 3,077 2,175	361,440 1,711,827 730,517 79,019 62,729 51,560 788,002 1,656,610	482,764 1,756,707 779,039 82,522 59,690 76,699 758,757 1,905,432	34 1,188 705 57 39 0 387 195	92 838 479 43 11 0 305	34,932 173,811 85,746 9,143 4,547 0 74,375 175,090	50,163 141,170 61,765 6,478 1,166 35 71,725 180,135
Fruits - fr (MT) Fruits - fr - citrus (MT) Grapefruit - fresh (MT) Lemons & limes - fresh (MT) Oranges & tangerines - fresh (MT) Fruits - fr - noncitrus (MT) Apples - fresh (MT) Grapes - fresh (MT) Other noncitrus - fresh (MT) Fruits - dried (MT) Raisins - dried (MT) Prunes - dried (MT) Other dried fruits (MT)	1,748 880 278 129 472 868 329 116 424 169 93	1,763 818 442 116 258 946 348 144 453 228 123 92	1,211,477 509,870 155,986 97,383 255,866 701,607 167,237 131,085 403,286 272,745 106,385 19,147	1,396,946 568,937 259,072 113,374 195,940 828,009 218,237 166,870 442,902 301,589 113,495 24,395	160 52 11 12 29 108 13 24 71 17 11 6	153 35 12 10 13 118 20 76 22 13 8	128,376 30,735 5,887 9,672 15,155 97,641 9,079 26,758 61,804 27,758 61,804 27,758	129,480 29,579 5,919 11,334 12,305 99,901 13,470 25,398 61,033 27,888 17,105 9,336 1,447

	October-August				August				
Commodity group and unit	Thousand Units \$ Thousands			Thousand units \$ Thousands					
	1989/90	1990/91	1989/90	1990/91	1990	1991	1990	1991	
Fruits - canned ex juice (MT) Fruits - froz ex juice (MT) Other fruits - prep or pres (MT) Fruit juices incl froz (HL) Other fruit juices (HL) Other fruit juices (HL) Wine (HL) Nuts & prep (MT) Almonds (shelled basis) (MT) Peanuts, shelled or prep (MT) Walnuts, shelled or unshelled (MT) Pecans, shelled or unshelled (MT) Other nuts, shelled or prep (MT) Vegetables & prep (NA) Vegetables - fr (MT) Calliflower - fresh (MT) Cauliflower - fresh (MT) Onions - fresh (MT) Onions - fresh (MT) Onther fresh vegetables (MT) Vegetables - froz (MT) Corn, sweet, frozen (MT) Potatoes - fresh (MT) Other frozen vegetables (MT) Vegetables - froz (MT) Corn, sweet, frozen (MT) Potatoes - frozen (MT) Potatoes - frozen (MT) Potatoes - frozen (MT) Other frozen vegetables (MT) Vegetables - canned (MT) Pulses (MT) Dried beans (MT) Dried beans (MT) Other veg - prep or pres (NA) Oilseeds & prods (MT) Other veg - prep or pres (NA) Oilseeds & meal (MT) Soybean meal (MT) Other oilcake & meal (MT) Other oilcake & meal (MT) Other oilseeds (MT) Peanuts, incl oilstock (MT) Other oilseeds (MT) Soybean oil (MT) Cotton seed oil (MT) Soybean oil (MT) Cotton seed oil (MT) Soybean oil (MT) Soybean oil (MT) Cotton ex linters (MT) Other tobacco - unmfg (MT) Cotton oumfg (MT) Cotton ex linters (MT) Sugar & tropical prods (NA) Sugar * related prods (NA) Sugar & related prods (NA) Fish & shellfish (MT) Fish - fr or prep (MT) Shelfish (MT) Herbicides (MT) Herbicides (MT) Insecticides (MT) Insecticides (MT) Insecticides (MT) Insecticides (MT) Insecticides (MT)	7532 466 5,011 2,410 751 520 148 284 62 62 62 1,059 87 552 186 108 139 54 179 59 182 553 360 291 179 59 16,887 16,477 16,477 162 188 139 163 164 179 165 179 167 179 168 179 169 179 179 179 179 179 189 189 189 189 189 189 189 189 189 18	91 91 91 36 58 5,781 164 57 11,331 104 57 273 140 147 128 481 274 273 140 147 128 481 274 485 14,881 14,408 291 102 466 1,529 601 103 104 105 105 105 105 105 105 105 105	78, 329 35, 030 59, 030 59, 039 298, 882 150, 813 148, 069 96, 648 469, 863 178, 012, 293 55, 684 1, 22, 293 55, 684 1, 549, 554 1, 549, 549, 549 1, 549, 549 1,	94, 862 32, 794 79, 2548 157, 518 153, 431 123, 288 860, 365 495, 235 119, 772 36, 879 2, 416, 434 39, 406 4125, 457 50, 400 41, 146 125, 457 50, 400 41, 146 125, 457 50, 400 41, 146 125, 457 50, 400 42, 118 116, 943 119, 713 309, 994 223, 109 223, 100 19, 071 882, 675 63, 223, 300 945, 852 32, 071 19, 071 19, 071 882, 675 63, 240 3, 300, 120 945, 857 63, 259 160, 542 17, 639 1, 471, 453 421, 148 850, 150 194, 217 2, 545, 161 170, 205 555, 857 843, 250 217, 639 1, 471, 453 421, 163 850, 150 194, 217 2, 545, 161 170, 205 555, 857 843, 250 217, 639 1, 471, 453 421, 639 1, 471, 453 431, 745 1, 639 1, 640 1, 639 1, 641 1,	6 7 6 7 6 5 6 6 3 9 7 2 5 9 8 2 3 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	9 3 7 461 248 213 966 29 188 77 1 11 3 3 148 770 177 244 146 66 422 77 409 364 46 935 8999 4 4 20 8 8999 4 4 20 8 8 8 9 9 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8	6,653 6,033 6,033 6,033 6,033 6,033 6,033 6,033 13,785 13,785 13,785 13,785 13,785 13,785 13,785 143,651 11,785 143,651 11,785 143,651 11,785	9,6790 9,6790 9,6790 9,6798 25,7794 113,7719 752,4217 752,4217 752,4217 752,4217 752,4217 752,4217 752,4217 752,4217 13,6339 1791,1048 119,4794 120,4794 120,4794 120,4794 120,4794 120,4794 120,4794 120,4794 120,4794 120,4794 120,4794 120,4794 120,4794 120,4794 120,4794 120,4794 120,4794 120,4794 120,4794 120,4794 121,4794 121,4794 121,4794 121,4794 121,4794 121,4794 121,4794 121,4797 121,489 121,4994 121,4994 121,4994 121,4994 121,4994 121,4994 121,4994 121,4994 121,4994 121,4994 121,4994 121,4994 121,4994 121,4994 121,4994 121,4994 121,4994 131,4994 141,	
Farm machinery (NA) Tractors & self-prop mach (NO) Other ag machinery & parts (NA)	31	22	1,899,994 640,098 1,259,896			1	110,024	148,995 41,513 107,482	
Tobacco - mfg (NA)			4,055,462	4,810,855			421,879	342,034	

Preliminary data. NA = Not available. Zeroes in quantity columns represent none or less than 500 units.

	Т	October	-August		August			
Commodity and unit	Thousan	d units	Thousand	dollars	Thous	and units	Thousar	nd dollars
	1989/90	1990/91	1989/90	1990/91	1990	1991	1990	1991
Total agricultural imports (NA) Noncompetitive ag imports (NA) Bananas & plantains (MT) Coffee, incl prods (MT) Tea (MT) Spices (MT) Rubber & allied gums - crude (MT) Silk - raw (MT) Wool, unmfg - carpet (MT) Fibers, excl cotton (MT) Essential oils (MT) Drugs - crude natural (MT) Other noncompetitive imports (NA) Animals & prods (NA) Animals & prods (NA) Animals - live, ex poultry (NO) Cattle (NO) Swine (NO) Sheep, live (NO) Meats & prods, ex poultry (MT) Beef & veal (MT) Beef & veal - fr or froz (MT) Beef & veal - prep or pres (MT) Pork - fr or froz (MT) Pork - prep or pres (MT) Wutton goat & lamb (MT) Variety meats - fr or froz (MT) Other meats & prods (MA) Poultry - live (NA) Poultry and prods (NA) Poultry mad prods (NA) Poultry mad prods (NA) Poultry - live (NA) Poultry mad prods (NA) Feathers & down - crude (MT) Dairy products (NA) Milk & cream, fr or dried (MT) Butter & butterfat mixtures (MT Cheese (MT) Casein & mixtures (MT) Other hides & skins (NA) Fats, oils, & greases (MT) Hides & skins (NA) Furskins (NA) Wool - urmfg, apparel grades (MT Sausage casings (MT) Barley, urmilled (MT) Oats, urmilled (MT) Oats, urmilled (MT) Biscuits & wafers (MT) Biscuits & wafers (MT) Fruits - fr or froz (MT) Fruits - fresh (MT) Grapes, fr	2,973 1,214 1,657 80 97 757 0 13 87 32 54 1,842 1,842 1,842 69 313 206 107 16 107 16 107 16 107 17 17 18 18 19 107 11 107 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11	3,093 1,028 627 96 100 726 0 9 79 17,50 2,954 1,978 20 1,091 741 675 65 298 207 91 20 177 21 20 14 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 13 14 12 12 13 14 14 14 15 16 17 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18	20,828,386 5,167,624 1,875,904 1,964,612 141,084 221,405 640,180 10,132 39,727 135,864 245,704 15,666,762 5,104,789 969,364 829,211 488,737 1,887,125 1,488,737 1,887,125 1,488,737 1,988,343 1,7098 9,111 4,104 17,378 382,088 17,098 9,111 4,104 17,378 382,098 120,384 14,104 17,542 57,585 13,487 171,049 32,098 57,399 49,178	20, 785, 956 4,989, 042 1,701, 224 900, 025 1,701, 224 142, 027 1,721, 240 238, 922 607, 927 21, 240 38, 526 142, 507 15, 796, 914 1060, 533 908, 633 48, 176 10,7457 11,743 1,416 27,847,459 1,612,493 804,405 463,171 341,255 11,255 11,255 11,255 11,255 11,255 11,255 11,255 11,255 11,255 11,255 11,743 27,845 107,457 13,321 17,827 61,708 740,881 740,881 740,881 740,881 740,881 740,881 740,881 740,881 741,745 117,374 16,458 69,316 17,374 17,374 16,458 69,316 17,374 17,374 16,458 69,316 146,525 54,540 54,345	277.7.66666.33.2211.	30. 88 8. 11 5. 88 11. 50 11. 99 15. 11 5. 12 2 2. 13 1	1,727,362 422,209 23 422,209 23 128,127 28 96,341 1,088 11,088	1,706,447 88,453 123,086 78,669 12,208 19,772 44,465 7,604 3,116 14,164 49,108 35,116 36,505 26,988 22,795 22,360 31,73,73,73 37,233 37,233 37,233 37,233 37,233 37,233 36,829 4,818 36,904 8,904 8,904 9,704 3,818 36,088 9,704 3,818 36,088 9,704 3,818 36,088 9,704 3,818 36,088 9,704 3,818 36,088 9,704 3,818 36,088 36,088 36,088 36,088 37,083 37,083 37,083 37,083 37,083 37,083 37,083 37,083 38,082 38,

^{1/} Excludes quantity data on anhydrous ammonia in 1989/90. All other statistics are preliminary. NA = Not available. Zeroes in quantity columns represent none or less than 500 units.

Table 3--U.S. agricultural trade summary (\$ Million)

_				-	-
Item	June	July	Aug	Year to date	Chg. fm. prev. yr.
					Percent
Agricultural exports Imports (c.i.f.) Imports (Customs val.)	2,653 1,959 1,884	2,926 1,865 1,760	2,841 1,822 1,706	34,758 22,310 20,786	-7.3 -2.1 -0.2
Trade Balance: Exports minus cif imports	509	782	1,019	12,448	-15.4
Exports minus Customs valued imports	768	1,167	1,135	13,972	-16.2
Preliminary data.					

Table 4--U.S. agricultural exports, 1950-1991

Fiscal	Total	Bulk 2/	High-va	High-value 3/		
year 1/	exports	products	produc	products		
	\$ bill.	\$ bill.	\$ bill.	Percent total		
1950-59 ave.	3,593	2,294	1,299	36		
1960-69 ave.	5,846	3,817	2,029	35		
1970-79 ave.	11,940	8,076	3,863	32		
1980 1981 1982 1983 1984 1985 1986 1987 1988 1989 1990 1991 (E)	40,481 43,780 39,097 34,769 38,027 31,201 26,234 27,876 35,316 35,652 40,182 37,500	27,754 29,694 26,236 22,782 25,577 19,589 14,040 14,148 18,982 21,883 21,324	12,727 14,086 12,861 11,987 12,450 11,612 12,194 13,728 16,334 17,770 18,858 19,926	31 32 37 40 34 39 49 51 48 46 46 53		

^{1/ 1950-69} data in calendar years. 2/ Raw grains, oilseeds, cotton, & tobacco. 3/ All other agricultural products. E = Estimated.

Table 5--U.S. agricultural exports (\$ Million)

	-				
Commodity group	June	July	Aug	Year to date	Change from prev. year
Total Live animals Meat & preps Dairy prod & eggs Animal fats Hides & skins Wheat Rice Corn Other feed grains Animal feeds Soybeans Vegetable oils Horticult. prods. Cotton & linters Tobacco, unmfg.	2,653 35 285 38 37 113 167 44 295 13 226 226 226 226 145 111	2,926 48 290 50 35 106 243 52 447 214 247 97 594 81	2,841 73 282 41 35 104 287 52 424 69 227 202 69 555 70 84	34,758 587 3,222 388 379 1,352 2,575 687 4,492 2,703 3,300 653 6,685 2,558 1,471	Percent -7.3 44.2 14.0 -7.2 -10.8 -21.0 -33.4 -10.2 -25.7 0.4 -12.2 -13.9 16.1 -0.6 14.5

Preliminary data.

Table 6--U.S. agricultural imports (\$ Million, Customs value)

Commodity group	June	July	Aug	Year to date	Change from prev. year
Total Live animals Meat & preps. Dairy prod, eggs Grains & feeds Fruits & nuts Vegetables Vegetable oils Wine Malt beverages Coffee Cocoa Rubber, natural Sugar-cane & beet Tobacco, unmfg. Seeds, flowers	1,884 70 291 79 110 318 171 61 69 75 105 85 49 73 77 38	1,760 60 267 81 108 269 147 64 65 87 113 70 46 57 65 38	1,706 51 260 79 110 245 138 57 69 81 123 79 448 57 58	20,786 1,074 2,782 759 1,162 3,229 2,057 689 856 791 1,701 927 608 612 652	Percent -0.2 9.2 5.9 -16.2 7.5 0.1 -4.4 5.0 0.6 -2.7 -9.3 -3.9 -5.0 15.8 4.0

Preliminary data.

This report is available through USDA's Computerized Information Delivery Service (CIDS) three working days following release of the Commerce Department's monthly U.S. merchandise trade data. Call Russell T. Forte, Office of Information, 202-447-5505.

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